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## Senate

The Senate met at 3 p.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal God, our shelter in the time of storm, in an anxious, troubled, and violent world, we turn to You seeking light and life for our day, faith and freedom for our world, and triumph and truth for this generation.

Abide with our lawmakers. Make them mindful of Your presence, eager to do Your will, and committed to serve this land we love. Lord, use them to work for the triumph of truth. Strengthen them with Your Spirit so that they will meet today's challenges with daring faith and transcendent wisdom.

Hasten the day when justice shall reign in the relationships of people, and peace shall regulate the affairs of nations.

Lord, bless the people of France.

We pray in Your sovereign Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

### TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST FRANCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as the Senate convenes today, the world faces yet

another horrific terrorist act, this time against America's oldest ally, France. Across our great Nation, Americans have displayed the French flag across buildings, monuments, and Facebook pages in solidarity with France, a country with which we have long shared democratic values.

We, too, have felt the searing shock and pain of terrorism on our own soil, and just as France stood with us after the 9/11 attacks, we stand with France today. I personally express my condolences for those in France who lost a loved one. To the mothers, fathers, grandparents, children, friends, and relatives, we mourn with you. To all those in the midst of caring for loved ones, those injured in these evil attacks—as hundreds were—our hearts and our thoughts are with you.

There are no words to adequately describe the barbarism of ISIS, the organization that carried out this attack and mowed down innocent civilians enjoying the freedom and beauty of a Paris night, but as we know, the attacks in Paris do not stand alone. ISIS has viciously attacked innocent people in Beirut, Syria, Iraq, Libya, and other places. They have beheaded Americans, beheaded others, instituted a policy of rape and violence against women, and are attempting to take civilization back to the Dark Ages. ISIS does not worship Islam. ISIS worships death. ISIS doesn't practice compassion and mercy. ISIS practices killing, torture, and violence. Instead of guiding its followers on the straight and narrow path, ISIS guides them to hate.

As Pope Francis said yesterday:

The road of violence and hate does not resolve the problems of humanity. Using God's name to justify this path is blasphemy.

The Pope is right.

Law-abiding Muslims—many of whom have also been innocent victims of terror—must not allow these radicals to be the face of their religion. We cannot allow it. They cannot allow it. I know I speak for the Senate in saying

we are all committed to stopping ISIS. We are united in supporting France in every possible way, as the people of France move forward after these attacks.

I repeat, as the Pope said yesterday:

The road of violence and hate does not resolve the problems of humanity. Using God's name to justify this path is blasphemy.

Will the Chair announce today's business.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 5 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. TILLIS). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

### THE HONOR OF SERVING MY STATE AND COUNTRY

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I received an announcement of a lifetime. At 4 p.m. today, the President of the United States informed me that I will receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I want to thank him for this honor and to say that I am deeply, deeply touched to join this group on November 14 of 17 Americans to receive this award.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the Nation's highest civilian honor. It

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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